

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 04609 01 OF 02 171148Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /018 W
-----171208Z 112169 /45

P 170947Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8614

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 ACCRA 4609

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, PINR, PGOV, GH
SUBJECT: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON NEW GHANAIAAN GOVERNMENT
OFFICIALS

REF: ACCRA 4524

1. FOLLOWING IS BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON NEW APPOINTEES
REPORTED REFTEL:

A. CAPTAIN JOY KOBLA AMEDUME (NEW NAVAL COMMANDER): BORN 1940
IN TAMALE, NORTHERN REGION (EWE TRIBE). ATTENDED ACHIMOTA
SECONDARY SCHOOL 56-60, GHANA MILITARY ACADEMY 60-61 AND
ROYAL (UK) NAVAL COLLEGE 61-64. AMEDUME HAD VARIETY OF
ASSIGNMENTS, INCLUDING SHIP COMMANDER, BEFORE BEING ASSIGNED
CHIEF OF NAVAL STAFF IN 72. WAS NAMED CENTRAL REGIONAL
COMMISSIONER IN 1973, ASHANTI REGIONAL COMMISSIONER 74 AND COM-
MISSIONER FOR LABOR, SOCIAL WELFARE AND COOPERATIVES IN 75.
HE IS DESCRIBED AS CAPABLE AND PRO-US. IS MARRIED WITH FOUR
CHILDREN.

B. DR. A.K. APPIAH (COMMISSIONER FOR FINANCE). BORN 9 APRIL
38 IN ASHANTI REGION. RECEIVED BS IN ECONOMICS AT LEGON AND
ATTENDED UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS. HAS BEEN DIRECTOR OF GHANA
INDUSTRIAL HOLDING CORP AND THE STATE GOLDMINE CORP (DATES
UNKNOWN). APPOINTED HEAD OF BANK OF GHANA RESEARCH DEPT 1968;
TO NRC ECONOMIC ADVISORY BOARD 1972; BOARD OF THE GHANA
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PAGE 02 ACCRA 04609 01 OF 02 171148Z

COMMERCIAL BANK 73, AND NAMED SENIOR PRINCIPAL SECRETARY FOR
FINANCE (HIGHEST CIVIL SERVANT) 75. MOST RECENT POSITION
WAS MANAGING DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL SECURITY BANK. HE IS DESCRIBED
AS MORE ACADEMIC THAN PRACTICAL BUT HAVING RATIONAL ECONOMIC
VIEWS.

C. LT. COL. CHARLES SPENCER CHURCHILL GRANT (COMMISSIONER

FOR SPECIAL DUTIES). BORN 28 NOV 42 IN SEKONDI (APPARENTLY FANTI TRIBE). ATTENDED GHANA MILITARY ACADEMY 62-63. HAS HAD VARIETY OF ASSIGNMENTS PRIMARILY WITH MOTAR REGIMENT, OF WHICH HE WAS NAMED CO IN 1972. GRANT WAS TRAINED IN THE USSR 65-66 AND IN THE US 74-76 (FIELD ARTILLERY AND COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF SCHOOL). HIS PERFORMANCE AT CGSS WAS EXCEPTIONAL.

D. EDWARD RICHARD KWABENYA DWEMOH (COMMISSIONER FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION). BORN 10 APRIL 26 IN ASHANTI. TAUGHT SECONDARY SCHOOL UNTIL 1953 WHEN JOINED CIVIL AVIATION DEPT. WAS TRAINED IN GHANA AND UK AS TRAFFIC CONTROLLER AND APPOINTED DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION IN 1962. IN 69 WAS APPOINTED PRESIDENT OF THE AFRICAN CIVIL AVIATION COMMISSION. MISSION HAS HAD CONSIDERABLE CONTACT WITH HIM ON CIVAIR MATTERS. VISITED US ON IV GRANT 72.

E. NII ANTYETEI KWAKWRANYA (COMMISSIONER FOR LABOR, SOCIAL WELFARE AND COOPERATIVES). ABOUT 50 YEARS OLD, A LEGON UNIVERSITY GRADUATE. HIS FULL TIME JOB WAS PERSONNEL DIRECTOR FOR BLACK STAR LINES (SHIPPING), BUT HE IS BETTER KNOWN AS ONE OF THE MAJOR GA TRADITIONAL CHIEFS.

F. CLEMENT KUBINDIWO TEDAM (COMMISSIONER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT). A BRITISH EDUCATED LAWYER FROM THE NORTH. WAS AN MP DURING THE NKRUMAH REGIME (APPARENTLY CPP) AND WAS PLACED IN "PROTECTIVE CUSTODY" AFTER THE 1966 COUP. HE WON A PARLIAMENTARY SEAT FROM CHIANA-PAGA (UPPER REGION) CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 ACCRA 04609 01 OF 02 171148Z

IN THE 1969 ELECTIONS ON THE PROGRESS PARTY TICKET.

G. ARAYIFAA KARBO (COMMISSIONER FOR HEALTH). ABOUT 50 YEARS OLD, ALSO A LAWYER FROM THE NORTH. IS GRADUATE OF THE GHANA LAW SCHOOL AND WAS A PRO-BUSIA POLITICAL DURING THE 1960'S. WAS NAMED ASHANTI GOLD FIELDS DIRECTOR 1969 AND DIRECTOR OF THE PUBLIC SERVICES COMMISSION IN 1971. HE HAS BEEN DESCRIBED AS BASICALLY A POLITICIAN. HE IS ALSO A CHIEF IN HIS HOME TOWN.

H. FRED KWASI B. APALOO (CHIEF JUSTICE). BORN 9 JAN 21, WOE, VOLTA REGION (EWE). EDUCATED IN KETA AND ACCRA ACADEMY. ATTENDED UNIV OF LONDON 48-50 (BA LAWS) AND CALLED TO THE BAR (MIDDLE TEMPLE) 1960. NAMED HIGH CURT JUDGE IN GHANA 60, APPEAL COURT JUDGE 66. HE CHAIRED A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO NKRUMAH'S PROPERTIES AFTER THE 66 COUP. WAS APPOINTED TO EXEMPTIONS COMMISSION 1969 AND TO SUPREME COURT (SINCE ABOLISHED) 71. RECEIVED US LEADER GRANT IN 1965. MARRIED WITH FOUR CHILDREN, HE IS DESCRIBED AS

"TOUGH AND EFFECTIVE". APALOO WAS NEXT SENIOR JUSTICE
AND NATURAL SUCCESSOR TO AZU CRABBE.

I. ARCHBISHOP JOHN KODWO AMISSAH (SPECIAL ADVISOR) BORN
27 NOV 1922 ELMINA (FANTI). ORDAINED CATHOLIC PRIEST 49,
NAMED BISHOP 57, ARCHBISHOP 59, AND ARCHBISHOP METROPOLITAN
1960. HIS HQS IS IN CAPE COAST. WAS EDUCATED AT UNIVERSITY
OF ROME 51-54. 1969 WAS APPOINTED TO COUNCIL OF STATE.

J. A.M. ISSIFU (SPECIAL/ADVISOR). BORN 1925 NAVRONGO,
NORTHERN REGION, BROUGHT UP IN KORORIDUA (EASTERN REGION).
HAD PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN FARMING AND FIRST BECAME ACTIVE
IN LABOR MOVEMENT IN 1945. HAS BEEN A LEADING FIGURE IN
GHANAIAI UNIONS SINCE THEN AND WAS NAMED SECRETARY GENERAL
OF THE GHANA TRADES UNION CONGRESS IN APPROXIMATELY 1972.
ISSIFU WAS A STAFF EMPLOYEE OR COOPTEE OF THE AFRICAN
SECRETARIAT DURING THE 1960'S. HAS VISITED US ON IV
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PAGE 04 ACCRA 04609 01 OF 02 171148Z

GRANTS IN 71 AND 75 (THE LATTER VERY BRIEFLY TO ATTEND AFL-
CIO CONVENTION).

K. S.K. DANSO (SPECIAL AIDE) FORMER CPP ACTIVIST AND
SMITH

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PAGE 01 ACCRA 04609 02 OF 02 171152Z
ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 /018 W
-----171209Z 112218 /45

P 170947Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8615

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 ACCRA 4609

AFRICAN SECRETARIAT WORKER. WAS DEPUTY MAYOR OF KUMASI IN
1960'S. WAS PLACED IN CUSTODY AFTER COUP ATTEMPT AGAINST
NLC IN 1967. IN 1970 HE HAD A SMALL TRADING STALL IN
KUMASI (PAPERS DESCRIBED HIM AS "KUMASI BUSINESSMAN").

TRAVELLED TO USSR AND GDR DURING EARLY 60'S.

L. SAM BOATENG (SPECIAL AIDE). POSSIBLY IDENTICAL WITH PERSON OF THE SAME NAME BORN 28 DEC 37, KYAKROM, WHO WAS EDUCATED IN THE USSR AND HELPED FOUND THE SOVIET TRAINED GHANAIANS ASSOCIATION IN EARLY 1970'S. IN 1972-73 HE WORKED FOR MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE.

M. S.O. LAMPTEY (SPECIAL AIDE). NATIONAL ORGANIZER OF THE GHANA PEACE AND SOLIDARITY COUNCIL (GPSC). FORMER GHANA YOUNG PIONEERS ORGANIZER. STUDIED POLITICS AND ADMINISTRATION IN EAST GERMANY AND HAS TRAVELLED FREQUENTLY TO USSR AND EAST EUROPE OVER THE YEARS.

N. KWESI GHAPSON (SPECIAL AIDE). BORN 30 OCT 30, PRESENT NATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE GHANA PEACE AND SOLIDARITY COUNCIL (GPSC). GHAPSON WAS A YOUNG PIONEERS ORGANIZER AND LECTURER AT THE IDEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE DURING NKRUMAH DAYS. RECENT REPORTS INDICATE THE SOVIETS OPPOSED HIS RE-ELECTION TO THE HEAD OF GPSC, BUT HE WON ANYHOW. HE HAS CONSISTENTLY BACKED ACHEAMPONG ON THE UNION GOVERNMENT ISSUE.

O. BEN KUMAH (SPECIAL AIDE), A FORMER HEAD OF THE GPSC.
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PAGE 02 ACCRA 04609 02 OF 02 171152Z

HE HAS TRAVELLED TO MOSCOW IN THE PAST. PROBABLY IDENTIFIABLE WITH BENJAMIN K. KUMA, BORN 28 FEBRUARY 1931, A FORMER POLICEMAN WHO WAS SECONDED TO THE YOUNG PIONEERS DURING THE SIXTIES AS A SECURITY OFFICER.

P. JOSEPH EMMANUEL APPIAH (AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE TO THE UN). BORN 1919 IN BEKWAI, ASHANTI. STUDIED LAW IN UK AND WAS AN EARLY SUPPORTEE OF NKRUMAH. HOWEVER HE SPLIT AND JOINED THE OPPOSITION GROUP IN THE LATE TPJS. HAS LONG BEEN IN AND OUT OF POLITICS AND SOUGHT TO BE NAMED PRIME MINISTER IN ACHEAMPONG'S UNION GOVERNMENT SCHEME.

QM COL JOSEPH NUNOO-MENSAH (AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE TO KAMPALA). BORN 14 FEB 39, WINNEBA (FANTI). NUNOO-MENSAH SERVED PREVIOUSLY AS DIRECTOR OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE (DMI) AND MOST RECENTLY AS ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF.

R. MAJOR GENERAL JOSHUA HAMIDU (AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE TO LUSAKA). BORN 15 SEPT 36, NORTHERN REGION. ALSO A FORMER DIRECTOR OF MI. HAMIDU HAS OFTEN BEEN NAMED AS A POSSIBLE CONTENDER FOR HEAD OF STATE, AND WAS REMOVED FROM ACTIVE DUTY TO SERVE AS AMBASSADOR TO SENEGAL JUST AFTER THE 1972 COUP, RETURNING TO BE COMMANDANT OF THE ARMED FORCES STAFF COLLEGE IN 1976.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ACCRA04609
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770216-1137
Format: TEL
From: ACCRA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770647/aaaabpep.tel
Line Count: 224
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 5115fc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 ACCRA 4524
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2118423
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON NEW GHANAIAI GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
TAGS: PINS, PINT, PINR, PGOV, GH, (AMEDUME, JOY KOBLA)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5115fc7a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009